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10. Although the Cambodians now have their own separate army, the French still control the flow of US military supplies coming into Cambodia. The Cambodians do not like this naturally, since it means that the French get all the new US equipment and they get the castoffs.
- 25X1X 11. Despite this situation, [REDACTED] French officers [REDACTED] consider the Cambodian troops superior to the Vietnamese troops. 25X1X
12. Apparently one reason for this is that the Cambodians, being racially purer than the Vietnamese, are more even tempered as a group. For example, the men in a Cambodian platoon not only look alike but react alike, whereas a Vietnamese platoon may be Chinese, Annamese, Tonkinese, plus mixtures of the three, all reacting differently and disliking each other.
13. Pharmaceuticals available in the open market in Vietnam are all imported from France. The French and Vietnamese troops use drugs of US origin, but packaged as military supplies.
14. The Viet Minh use US made pharmaceuticals, packed commercially, which are smuggled in from Thailand. Importers in Bangkok bring in the drugs from the US and sell them to Chinese drugstore owners or others who have some quasi-legitimate reason for purchasing pharmaceuticals.
15. The Chinese act as middle men; they resell, at a substantial profit, to Viet Minh adherents who take the risks of crossing the border into Laos.
16. The big, French family-owned tea and rubber plantation in Vietnam have nearly all passed into the hands of companies.
17. There were over 100 big tea plantations owned by French families before World War II; only six are now still operating under family ownership.
18. The situation is the same with regard to the rubber plantations; companies like Bata have taken over management of many of them. A great deal of land that was in either tea or rubber is not being worked at all due to Viet Minh activity or because the French owners have been killed or moved away.
19. The Hoa Hao people live along the coast south of Saigon and along the mouths of the Mekong. There are about three million of them and piracy is their chief source of revenue. They exact tolls from vessels traveling up the Mekong.
20. The French have tried to reform the Hoa Hao by force, or to control them by diplomacy, but without success. They even made the Hoa Hao chief an honorary general, but this does not seem to have had any effect on the Hoa Hao people. The chief is in his 70's and his influence over the Hoa Hao is waning.
21. The Viet Minh made efforts to enlist these people, but the Hoa Hao are not interested in politics. They are only interested in money.
22. The Hoa Hao maintain their own army and make their own weapons, including rifles, sub-machine guns, and machine guns, all copied from US arms. Although all parts for the weapons are hand made, they work satisfactorily.

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755.211	22L
755.211	5L
751.931	5L/C(5L)
751.932	5L(XL)
7-11/712	52L/C(5L)
7-12/712	5L(XL)
117.501	52L

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